



U.S. Immigration
and Customs
Enforcement

March 11, 2005

News Release

CLOVIS CHIROPRACTOR SENTENCED TO 30 YEARS IN INTERNATIONAL INTERNET CHILD PORNOGRAPHY SCHEME

FRESNO – A former Clovis chiropractor was sentenced today to 30 years in prison for his role in a worldwide conspiracy to sexually exploit children and distribute photographs of the exploitation over the Internet.

Lloyd Alan Emmerson, 47, appeared here this afternoon before U.S. District Court Judge Oliver W. Wanger. In announcing Emmerson's thirty-year sentence, Judge Wanger stated that he never believed it was possible for human beings to engage in the type of conduct at the heart of the conspiracy in this case. He noted that it went beyond depravity and was particularly troubled by fathers being willing to engage in such conduct with their own daughters.

The investigation leading to Emmerson's 2002 arrest stems from a tip U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) agents received from authorities in Denmark. That lead sparked a joint investigation involving ICE and the Clovis Police Department. Last year, Emmerson pleaded guilty to conspiring to sexually exploit children, sexually exploiting children, and receiving and distributing material involving the sexual exploitation of minors.

"The conduct involved in this case cannot be understood or justified," said United States Attorney McGregor W. Scott. "Unfortunately, images of the victims in this case will still be circulating on the Internet when Mr. Emmerson completes his sentence. This is simply unforgivable."

All told, some 20 defendants from the United States and Europe were indicted here in August 2002 in connection with this case. With the exception of one individual, whose case was severed from the rest, the 15 defendants from the United States have all pleaded guilty or been convicted after a jury trial.

The case is part of ICE's Operation Predator, a comprehensive initiative aimed at those who prey on and exploit children, including human traffickers, international sex tourists, Internet pornographers, and foreign national predators whose crimes make them deportable. More than 400 of the 5,000 child sex offenders arrested by U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) as part of this ongoing international initiative have occurred in northern California.

“As today’s sentencing shows, sexual predators will not go unpunished for their heinous crimes,” said Scott Brown, resident agent-in-charge for ICE investigations in Fresno. “We will continue to work closely with our local law enforcement partners to identify, arrest, and prosecute those who prey on children.”

Additional information about Operation Predator is available on the Web at www.ice.gov. ICE encourages the reporting of suspected child predators and any suspicious activity through its toll-free hotline at 1-866-DHS-2ICE. This hotline is staffed around the clock by investigators. Suspected child sexual exploitation or missing children may be reported to the National Center for Missing & Exploited Children, an Operation Predator partner, at 1-800-843-5678 or <http://www.cybertipline.com>.

ICE

U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement was established in March 2003 as the largest investigative arm of the Department of Homeland Security. ICE is comprised of five integrated divisions that form a 21st century law enforcement agency with broad responsibilities for a number of key homeland security priorities.